

School Forest Annual Report

Response ID:109 Data

1. Contact Information

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Full Name

Chris Hanson

School Forest Name

Dean Makey School Forest

Street Address

12149 Knollwood Drive, Baxter, MN 56425

City

Baxter

Email Address

christopher.hanson@isd18.org

Phone Number

218-454-6665

Summer/Home Email: Optional

2. Site Management and Help

2. Site assistance: What help has your School Forest received this year?

	Name/Organization	What was contributed/what did they do?
DNR forester	Dean Makey	Update management plan
Natural Resource Professional		
Volunteer	Brainerd Nordic Ski Club	Trail cleanup/maintenance
Grant		
Other	Brainerd Public Utilities	tree planiting site prep work/labor and equipment
Other		

3. Site management: What management was done in your School Forest this year? Check all that apply.

Tree care (pruning, mulching, health assessment, etc.)

Trail maintenance or development

Removing hazards (poison ivy, dead trees/branches)

Tree planting

Signs, kiosks, interpretation created or improved

Other - Write In: City removed sand deposits from School forest

4. Describe any management activities in more detail. This will help us better understand what has taken place this year.

Optional

City of Baxter removed sand deposits for city street projects. Sand hills had been onsite since before building of school and establishment of school forest. The area was graded by the contractors and seeded for reclamation by 5th grade classes, who also placed water bars for erosion control. Plan developed for wildlife food plots, wildflower/pollinator garden, future tree plantings, and outdoor seating area.

5. Do you have a School Forest stewardship/management plan?

Yes

If yes, what year?

2015 (update)

6. Would you like a Free School Forest training for teaching staff?

No

7. Do you need help with your School Forest committee?

No

8. Have there been any changes, happenings, or improvements to your site, committee, or teaching staff?

City of Baxter removed sand deposits for city street projects. Sand hills had been onsite since before building of school and establishment of school forest. The area was graded by the contractors and seeded for reclamation by 5th grade classes.

District level long range planning for future school building/developments are taking place. There is likely to be included an option to develop a portion the official school forest and adjacent forested area with trails as an elementary school site.

3. School Forest Activities

9. List School Forest activities. Include activities done by teachers and community groups. How would you like to enter in activities?

Enter manually

10. List School Forest activities. Include activities done by teachers and community groups.

	Month/season	Grade(s)	Teacher/leader	# of visits	Event/Topic/Activity description	# of students
1.	All year	7	Hanson	numerous	Train camera research projects and set up/maintenance	145
2.	Fall	5	Knutson + 5th grade staff	1	Forestry day	500
3.	Fall	5	Harrison	2	Inspect/maintain bluebird houses	120
4.	Winter	5-12	Storbakken + Nordic coaching staff	~40	Nordic ski practice for Brainerd Nordic teams	60
5.	June, 2016	6-8	Brown + P.E. Staff	1	"Fun Run" using 2 miles of school forest trails	1200
6.	Spring/fall	5-8	Hodge, et. al	12	bud capping/browse protection, release cutting	500
7.	Fall	Kindergarten	Knutson	22 classes	22 "kindergrove" trees planted	550
8.	Spring	5	Danielson	2	600 white spruce plantings	120
9.						
10.						

11. I would like to add in more activities.

No

12. Total number of people who used the School Forest in 2015-2016

Teachers : 20

Students : 1000+

4. School Forest Highlights

13. Highlight 1: include date, leader(s), grade(s) and activity description

Mr. Danielson and 5th grade students planted 600 white spruce in designated area as a class project.

14. Highlight 2: include date, leader(s), grade(s) and activity description

Deer browse protection and tree planting maintenance done by 5 teachers and classes (Hodge, et. al) fall and spring. (bud capping and release cutting)

15. Do you have any photos you'd like to share with us? Please upload them.

[Al Sharp dragging sand hill area_1137.jpg](#)

[IMG_3681.JPG](#)

[sandhill reclamation map.jpg](#)

[unnamed-1.jpg](#)

[unnamed-2.jpg](#)

[unnamed.jpg](#)

16. Is there anything else you'd like to share (additional highlights, problems, concerns, etc.)?

District level long range planning for future school building/developments are taking place. There is likely to be included an option to develop a portion the official school forest and adjacent forested area with trails as an elementary school site.

17. This online form is a new way to enter your annual report. Please provide us with feedback so we can improve it. Consider: ease, accessibility, features, problems, concerns, etc.

The process get a little easier every year. Thank you!